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It is our opinion that Mr. Robinson has made a most valuable addition to the literature of our country, and one which will be of almost incalculable value to young law students, who may now at the very outset of their career get a comprehensive idea of the work before them, instead of floundering around for months, and perhaps years, before they see to what end their labors tend.

*M. H.*

**AMERICAN LAW. A TREATISE ON THE JURISPRUDENCE, CONSTITUTION, AND LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.** By JAMES DE WITT ANDREWS. Chicago: Callaghan & Co. 1900.

In the preparation of this treatise the author has carefully borne in mind Lord Bacon's statement that "institutes ought to have two properties: the one a perspicuous and clear order or method; and the other a universal latitude or comprehension, that the student may have a little pre-notion of everything, like a model toward a great building." The Introduction treats of the development of the law, briefly tracing its growth from the system of government in Ancient Greece. The subject is then divided into four parts: First, The Law of Persons—Status, under which is considered in a thoroughly practical manner, the various rights, duties, capacities and privileges of public and private persons; second, The Law of Things, the word "thing" comprehending whatever may, according to our law, become the object of a right, and including, therefore, the treatment of contracts; third, The Law of Actions, which deals with procedure, courts and remedies; and fourth, The Law of Crimes, occupying but a few pages.

The work would not be less valuable if the author's censure of Blackstone's methods were curtailed; yet it should be welcomed, not only by students and lawyers, but also by those who aim to possess a general knowledge of the law. Well planned and carefully executed, it is clear, concise, and modern—the latter attribute a most valuable one in our ever-changing science.

The table of cases is well arranged, and the volume is thoroughly indexed.

*H. J. S.*

**THE POLICE POWER OF THE STATE AND DECISIONS THEREON AS ILLUSTRATING THE DEVELOPMENT AND VALUE OF CASE LAW.** By ALFRED RUSSELL, LL.D. Chicago: Callaghan & Co. 1900.

Mr. Russell's book, dealing with the "Police Power," is a useful addition to our abundant crop of learning on the general subject of Constitutional law.

Our author, in postponing the definition of police power to the very end of his book, says with much force:<sup>1</sup> "Definition is always perilous in the law, and no definition of our topic need now be attempted. What the police power is, and what its extent and

<sup>1</sup> p. 25.